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March 24, 2015

House Transportation Committee Members
Washington State Legislature
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Members,

I am writing on behalf of the statewide [Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition](http://www.copcwa.org) where we are always on the lookout for policy solutions that make the healthy choice easier for our children and all WA citizens. We are in support of **ESSB 5656**.

We need **all** sectors of our society to engage in building healthier communities. How we develop transportation policy has a direct impact on individual behavior. Creating safer streets through this bill will make walking and biking more attractive – a great example of making the healthy choice easier in our state.

Our current Distracted Driving laws sorely need updating. Providing our traffic safety community with 21st century tools to combat our explosive and dynamic communications technology is part of the healthy community's toolbox.

We need solutions that can calibrate a traffic safety system that encourages use of our roads that works for all users, including *walkers and bikers*. **ESSB 5656** can improve both public health and safety. Thank you for your consideration.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Victor Colman'.

Victor Colman, Director
Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition

Cc. Mark Matteson, Coordinator

COALITION MEMBERS

<p>ACTION FOR HEALTHY KIDS – WA CHAPTER AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS – WA CHAPTER AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY – CANCER ACTION NETWORK AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY, INC. AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION -- WA CHAPTER ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION BEECHER’S PURE FOOD KIDS FOUNDATION CAMP FIRE USA CENTRAL PUGET SOUND COUNCIL CASCADE BICYCLE CLUB EDUCATION FOUNDATION CHILDREN’S ALLIANCE COALITION FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH IN EARLY LEARNING FEET FIRST FORTERRA FOUNDATION FOR HEALTHY GENERATIONS GROUP HEALTH COOPERATIVE HOPE HEART INSTITUTE LET’S MOVE CHENEY MULTICARE HEALTH SYSTEMS NUTRITION FIRST ODESSA BROWN CHILDREN’S CLINIC PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON PUBLIC HEALTH ROUNDTABLE SCHOOL’S OUT WASHINGTON</p>	<p>SEA MAR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS SEATTLE CHILDREN’S SEATTLE AND KING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SEATTLE PARKS AND RECREATION SKAGIT COUNTY HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROJECT SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT SPOKANE REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT TACOMA PIERCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TRANSPORTATION CHOICES WA ASSOC. OF COMMUNITY & MIGRANT HEALTH CENTERS WASHINGTON BIKES WA COALITION FOR PROMOTING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY WASHINGTON DENTAL SERVICE FOUNDATION WASHINGTON RECREATION & PARK ASSOCIATION WASHINGTON SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION WA ST ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS WA STATE ACADEMY OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS WASHINGTON STATE DAIRY COUNCIL WASHINGTON STATE PTA WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION WASHINGTON SUSTAINABLE FOOD & FARMING NETWORK WASHINGTON TRAILS ASSOCIATION WITHINREACH YAKIMA COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL YMCA – GREATER SEATTLE</p>
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